

Matchmaker: Mushrooms of the Pacific Northwest

Below are written descriptions and images of fruiting bodies, mushrooms, of the fungal species in this ectomycorrhizal association. The information is from the web version of the Matchmaker: Mushrooms of the Pacific Northwest (MMPNW) created by the Canadian Forest Service and based on the Windows MMPNW version 1.3 by Ian and Eli Gibson.

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LATIN NAME(S) *Clitopilus prunulus* (Fr.) Kummer; *Clitocybe prunulus*

ENGLISH NAME(S) sweetbread mushroom, the miller

NOTES features include white to grayish cap, decurrent gills, strong mealy odor, and pinkish spores; the cucumber odor is caused by trans-2-nonenal, one of the chemicals causing the odor in the cucumber vegetable (Wood), found at least WA, Breitenbach & Kranzlin give distribution North America, Europe, Asia and North Africa

CAP 3-10cm, convex becoming flat or centrally depressed, margin often lobed or wavy; white to gray; dry and slightly felty or soft leathery or slightly viscid, smooth

FLESH rather thin; white

GILLS decurrent or sometimes adnate, fairly close, narrow; whitish to gray presumably becoming pinkish

STEM 2-8cm x 0.4-1.2cm, central or off-center, solid, equal or narrowing downward, white or grayish, pruinous or downy, finely hairy at base

ODOR floury (like sweetbread) or cucumber

TASTE floury

EDIBILITY yes, but too easy to confuse

HABITAT in open woods and grassy places near trees

SPORE DEPOSIT flesh-colored or salmon (Arora), brown-pink (Breitenbach)

MICROSCOPIC spores 9-12 x 5-7 microns, elliptic, longitudinally ridged, angular only in end view (longitudinal ridges), (Arora), spores 8.7-10.6(12) x 5.3-6.5 microns, fusiform-elliptic (spindle-shaped - elliptic), smooth, with 6-7(8) longitudinal ribs, (Breitenbach); basidia 4-spored, 32-47 x 11-14 microns, clavate, without basal clamp; pleurocystidia and cheilocystidia not seen; cap cuticle an ixocutis composed of irregular hyphae 3-6 microns wide, all slightly gelatinized, septa without clamps, (Breitenbach)

NAME ORIGIN means 'little plum', prunulus is diminutive of prunus = plum (Latin)

SIMILAR dealbata which has white spores, like *Clitocybe subconnexa* group but *subconnexa* grows in clusters and is more robust, like *Entolomas* in having pink spores but they do not typically have long decurrent gills



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SOURCES Arora*, Phillips*, Lincoff(2)*, Ammirati*, Lincoff(1)*, Kibby*, Courtecuisse*, Bessette(2)*, Barron*, Breitenbach(4)*, Wood(3)

FAMILY Entolomataceae of Order Agaricales